

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMERCE AND WORKFORCE SERVICES
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**
Room 110, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex
January 30, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Jon Greiner, Co-Chairman
Rep. Michael Morley, Co-Chairman
Sen. Mark Madsen
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Wayne Niederhauser
Rep. Sylvia Andersen
Rep. Jim Dunnigan
Rep. Craig Frank
Rep. Lynn Hemingway
Rep. Mark Wheatley
Rep. Larry Wiley

STAFF PRESENT: Danny Schoenfeld, Fiscal Analyst
Karen Mitchell, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of handouts and visitors lists will be filed with committee minutes.

Co-Chair Sen. Greiner called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Utah State Office of Rehabilitation

Danny Schoenfeld, Fiscal Analyst, presented the Budget Brief for the Office of Rehabilitation. The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) receives the majority of its revenue from the federal government. Federal funds represent over 61 percent of the total revenue supporting USOR. The agency also receives a significant portion of its revenue from State Funds - General and Uniform School Fund. State revenue contributes roughly 39 percent of the total budget. The total budget for the USOR totals \$57.8 million. The Analyst explained that the largest portion of the funding budget of \$39 million goes to the Rehabilitation Services.

The Analyst recommends that the Base Budget amount of \$57,832,000 be approved by the committee.

The Analyst reviewed the Issued Brief with the committee. The State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation is asking for a Building Block of \$287,000 to match an additional drawn down from the Federal Government of \$536,000. This amount will go toward the transitional service of individuals between the ages of 16 and 22 years of age. The Analyst recommends the full funding.

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The Analyst explained the Assisted Technology budget request is for devices that assist people with disabilities. The Analyst recommends an On-going appropriation of \$250,000 and \$500,000 One Time funding to assist with technology needs.

The Analyst further explained the Issue Brief on Independent Living Centers consisting of six satellite offices throughout the state. The Analyst recommends \$180,000 On-Going Funds as requested.

The Community Center for the Deaf is requesting \$81,000 for Case Manager and \$27,000 for Interpreter Services in the St George area. The Analyst recommends the full funding as requested.

The Fiscal Analyst is recommending \$172,000 from the On-Going School Fund for the Low Vision and Outreach Services.

Donald Uchida, Executive Director, thanked the Analyst for his presentation. The Department supports the Analyst's recommendation.

Kris Fawson, Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities, arranged for speakers representing various areas in the Rehabilitation to presentation for the committee.

Speakers: Emily Tanner, Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 Troy Roper, Blind and Visually Impaired
 Tara Briggs, Blind and Visually Impaired
 Irene Hardman, Vocational Rehabilitation
 Kerilynn Hardman, Vocational rehabilitation
 Debra Mair, Independent Living
 Jaimie Mone, Independent Living
 Melissa Hansen, Assistive Technology
 Joseph Taggery, Assistive Technology

Mr. Uchida responded to questions from the committee.

Department of Insurance

Tomi Ossana, HIPUtah, briefed the committee on SB 101, Utah Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Funding.

Ms Ossana answered questions from the committee.

Neil Gooch, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, answered further questions regarding SB 101.

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MOTION: Rep. Anderson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Greiner adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Sen. Jon Greiner, Co-Chair

Rep. Michael Morley, Co-Chair